Säuberli Families from Switzerland

Church in Holderbank, constructed in 1701/02

Säuberli Families:
Places of Origin in Switzerland

Oldest known place of origin are ***Möriken and Teufenthal*** in Canton Aargau. Säuberli families were settled in Möriken well before 1650, and are mentioned in Teufenthal by the year 1561. The name was mostly spelled *Süberli or Süferli* (in dialect). The old Swiss word *süferli* meant *meticulous,* or *careful.*

Suber (same as sauber in German) was derived from the old Latin word *sobrius*, meaning: *temperate, moderate, or sober.* While *süferli* and *suber* described the same attributes in Old German and Swiss, the meaning of *suber* or *sauber* has changed in modern language use to describe *cleanliness.*

According to the Encyclopedia of Family Names, the surname Säuberlich stands for *cleanliness, purity, beauty, politeness,* and *good behavior.*

Säuberli families appear in *Auenstein* by 1666, and moved from *Teufenthal* to *Birr in 1696*. They also moved from *Teufenthal* to *Bözberg* as early as 1673 [Source: Court Records of Bözberg, STAAg AA 1337, foll.], but were registered there only for ten years at the very most. The Säuberli families from *Auenstein* spelled their surname also as *Süberli or Süferli.*
Säuberli families are no longer registered as burghers of *Auenstein, Birr, and Bözberg*, as they left those towns a long time ago. Nowadays they are still registered as burghers in M*öriken and Teufenthal.*

Dr. Peter Steiner from Reinach, who also researched the Swiss emigration to the Palatine, did not find any Säuberli families among those emigrants.

The town of Möriken-Wildegg was documented in 1292 as Mörinkon. This area was already inhabited from the Bronze Age, and by Romans during the time of the Roman occupation (from

58 to 400 C.E.), and settled by members of Germanic tribes (the Alamanni) thereafter. Castle Wildegg was built in the 12th Century by the Counts of Habsburg. When the former Murbach Estate ***Holderbank*** was sold in 1291, the village of Möriken-Wildegg came into the possession of the Habsburgs. The first school was established in Möriken in the 16th Century. Since 1565 Möriken belongs to the Parish of Holderbank, although it has it has its own church. Nowadays it is still mainly inhabited by farmers.

Möriken-Wildegg

The *Swiss Historical Lexicon of 1921* does not mention any Säuberli families. The *Electronic Lexicon* lists a publishing and printing house established in 1896 by *Albert Säuberlin* and Georges Pfeiffer in Vevey. It was bought out by the French Autajon Enterprise in 2002. [Source; Archive ACV, Decendent Estate Jeanne-Henriette Pfeiffer Monnerat, Page 1996]

While older church and property records no longer exist, and available sources appear not to make mention of the Säuberli name per se, we can assume that Säuberli families lived in Möriken by the mid 1500s, or well before that time. They also did not emigrate to the Palatine from Switzerland, according to Dr.

Peter Steiner's research. Based on the fact that this surname was spelled Süferli or Süberli in the oldest records, versus Säuberli or Säuberlin, it is quite possible that the family was settled in this area of Aargau already before the 1500s.
Without older written records, it would however be impossible to determine if the German surname *Sauber or Säuberlich* might have any connection to the Swiss Süberli/Säuberli surname from Möriken.

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